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Iowa State Daily

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GSB Presidential Profiles

By Emelie.Knobloch
@iowastatedaily.com

Editor's note:
Richard Martinez, a candidate running for GSB President, is a current staff member at the Iowa State Daily.



Barry Snell

What do you plan on bringing to the Iowa State student body?

B.S. — “We are running an issues and awareness campaign, purely to ensure certain issues, not matter how uncomfortable, are brought to light for students. Whether students pay attention is up to them, but we’re going to do our part because GSB elections and election turnouts are abysmal and something’s got to change.”

What experience do you have as a leader at Iowa State?

B.S. — “I am currently the most senior and experienced member of GSB. I am also the only known student to actually author a bill for the state legislature on behalf of students.”

Why do you want to be the next GSB president?

B.S. — “I don’t. I want to raise



Nathan Vos

awareness of our problems, issues and elections.”

How do you stand out from other candidates?

B.S. — “For most, it’s all about delivering a neatly wrapped, attractive PR message, full of slogans and cute ideas they think will snag some votes. Nathan and I are both reformers and have a very long record on GSB of working for changing the system, even when it’s upsetting or unpopular.”

What do you think of overpopulation in residence halls?

B.S. — “I think it sucks. I think it is irresponsible for the university to continue its massive recruiting push without having the issue of housing settled. I think it is even more irresponsible for the university to recruit beyond our capacity.”



Richard Martinez

What do you plan on bringing to the ISU student body?

R.M. — “I think one of the key things I have opposed to the other candidates is that I embrace diversity on campus. I am a Latino student. I am also from out-of-state.

“I would like to use that to my advantage and embrace that.”

What experience do you have as a leader at Iowa State?

R.M. — “I serve on my hall cabinet in my residence hall. I lead my floor, organize events and try to get students more involved through events.

“I am involved with the Iowa State Daily, and I am an associate producer for ISUtv.”

Why do you want to be the next GSB president?

R.M. — “The main reason I want to



Nick Lafrenz

win is because I want to be able to say that a leader can come from anywhere. That can be a large role model to a lot of people on campus.”

How do you stand out from other candidates?

R.M. — “I am a freshman. I would like to give a fresh perspective. I can definitely see a lot more issues that I have witnessed first hand as a new student than they have.”

What do you think of overpopulation in residence halls?

R.M. — “Coming from a residence hall I was actually dumped into because of the overpopulation, you see it everywhere. Whether you are elbow-to-elbow on the CyRide or waiting in a lunch line at UDCC, it is just absurdly packed.

“It is going to lead to a major problem at some point.”



Hillary Kletscher

What do you plan on bringing to the ISU student body?

H.K. — “It’s really a continuation of work we have already started and that is what we are really excited about. Just to touch on a few things, to talk about academics, Mike and I do want to increase the amount of tutoring and supplemental instruction so that all students can have access to the resources they need outside of the classroom.”

What experience do you have as a leader at Iowa State?

H.K. — “Mike and I were GSB engineering senators together our sophomore year. Now I am serving as Vice President of GSB. I have also served on the executive board in my sorority, which was a great opportunity to work with a team.”

Why do you want to be the next GSB president?

H.K. — “Our experience is why we are best for the job because no matter



Mike Hoefer

where we go, we can connect with students. I think it really comes down to who you can sit down and have a conversation with as a student. We are those people that students can be real with.”

How do you stand out from other candidates?

H.K. — “I think the biggest way Mike and I stand out is that we have experience. We have experience working with students, working with faculty and working with administration. We have those relationships built so we don’t have to start fresh. We have the ability to get things done.”

What do you think of overpopulation in residence halls?

H.K. — “We have obviously had increased enrollment. Sometimes that means taking away a community den. What does that look like? These are the conversations we have been having. ... We are looking forward to the addition of a residence hall next to Buchanan.”



Khayree Fitten

What do you plan on bringing to the ISU student body?

K.F. — “I think a lot of what Gabe and I are doing is bringing creative solutions that impact individual student’s experiences. We want to provide for student groups and specifically students in general. We are working on a project right now to provide textbooks for the most popular classes.”

What experience do you have as a leader at Iowa State?

K.F. — “I was a cyclone aid this past summer. I am involved in VEISHEA, winterfest, freshman council, the Greek community and GSB for two years. Gabe and I have extensive finance experience with our involvement on the GSB finance committee.”

Why do you want to be the next GSB president?

K.F. — “It’s a very humbling position. It was mainly our relationship as a team. I said to Gabe that if we weren’t going to



Gabe Walsh

do this together, I wasn’t going to do it at all. We want to continue to work on the projects we have started.

“That is what made us excited for this adventure.”

How do you stand out from other candidates?

K.F. — “I think it really comes down to our relationship. We go back about five years. Gabe wasn’t my first choice to be Vice President; he was my only choice for Vice President. We have deep roots in government.”

What do you think of overpopulation in residence halls?

K.F. — “Gabe and I have seen the transition from regular rooms being used to dens being used and later the Freddy Court expansion.

“It is concerning since the Iowa State experience is our brand. It is about making a big university seem small. We will continue to talk with administrators as we have been.”

Miranda Cantrell/Iowa State Daily

Wi-Fi signals examined, upgraded system coming

By Mackensie.Moore
@iowastatedaily.com

Due to an increase in Internet outages and drops in service, as well as complaints by students, a system upgrade is in the works.

“We need to keep serving students well and right now, the No. 1 headache we’re dealing with is wireless,” said Peter Englin, director of residence.

The system installed five years ago was designed to accommodate about one device per student, but now as students come to campus with a multitude of devices: laptops, tablets, gaming systems, phones and more — the system is not able keep up.

“Right now, almost everything is wireless, so at this point, students have high expectations but are using a lot of bandwidth,” Englin said. “But because we have high-density living, students are expecting it to be

improved.”

The current system has 769 access points that allow for 100 MB service for its range.

The new system will replace the current 769 with access points that offer 900 MB services, as well as add 1,000 new access points to the 19 residence halls and 29 Fredericksen Court buildings.

“Each access point will be 900 percent faster, but they don’t have as far a signal strength,” said Cole Staudt, freshman in political science and the information technology director for the Inter-Residence Hall Association. “So to combat that, they’re adding 1,000 more — more than double how many access points the residence halls have now — that will increase our system capacity by 2,000 percent.”

The Department of Residence has been working with IRHA and

WI-FI p4 >>

Officer returns following shooting

Pursuit, use of force policies not revised after case

By Makayla.Tendall
@iowastatedaily.com

After an internal review of the Nov. 4 fatal shooting on campus, the Ames Police Department will not make any immediate changes to neither the pursuit policy nor use of force policies.

“We’re reviewing all our policies which we do from time to time. At this point we haven’t made any changes, but that doesn’t mean we won’t in the future,” said Geoff Huff, investigations commander for the Ames Police.

Officer Adam McPherson, who has been on the Ames Police force for nine years, returned to duty around the beginning of January after he



Iowa State Daily

Police pursued a stolen truck onto Central Campus in a high speed chase on Nov. 4. Officer Adam McPherson was placed on paid administration leave for two months after firing seven shots. Comstock’s family has two years to file a lawsuit about the shooting.

was placed on paid administrative leave for almost two months.

McPherson was involved in the fatal car chase and shooting when a Boone man drove a stolen truck onto the ISU campus. Tyler Comstock, 19, was reported by his father for stealing his father’s truck and attached

trailer. Comstock drove the truck down Lincoln Way and up Beach Avenue while closely pursued by police. At one point during the chase, Comstock backed the trailer on top of a police car.

Comstock was then chased onto Central Campus

SHOOTING p4 >>



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**CASH POOL**

Smart Choice workshops educate about insurance

ISU Outreach offers free help to inform public, young people

By Julie Paulson
@iowastatedaily.com

Iowa State University Outreach now offers Smart Choice workshops to educate people on the Affordable Care Act and various types of insurance plans.

These workshops will be held in various libraries and outreach locations across the state and will help people examine and understand various insurance plans.

There is no pre-registration required for the workshops, which are conducted by 11 family finance specialists.

"The workshops are two hours long and start off by teaching basic concepts about health insurance," said Suzanne Bartholomae, state extension to families specialist and adjunct professor of human development and family studies. "Then the course looks at a case study ... and takes concepts that people can apply to their own lives."

Several workshops have already

been held, and workshops will continue to be held until March 31, when registration for federal insurance closes.

"There is information on the Affordable Care Act as well," Bartholomae said.

Bartholomae also said they'd provide more information on pre-existing conditions, how to compare plans when shopping around, where to go for insurance and places people can go for care.

The workshops are part of a larger campaign to educate the public, particularly young people, about insurance.

The campaign has utilized social media, student services, posters, informational brochures and webinars. All workshops are free of charge and aim to help people make the right choices for them and their families and situations in regards to health care while also educating them on the Affordable Care Act.

"It is relevant to students for sure," Bartholomae said. "They can now stay on their parents' insurance plans until they're 26 years old, even if they are no longer students, are no longer financially dependent on their parents or are married. Student plans have improved to cover preventative

care, pregnancy and prescriptions."

According to the Smart Choice program and statistics issued by the White House, young adults have the most people in their age group uninsured, have the lowest rate of employer-based insurance and nearly half of uninsured young adults have trouble paying medical bills.


"The Iowa Health and Wellness Plan has seen increased numbers of young people," Bartholomae said. "New tax credits are being offered, along with emergency plans for people under 30 years old that have lower premiums, but higher deductibles."

The Smart Choice program is funded through a grant by the Iowa Insurance Division.

While the program is currently directed at community colleges, Bartholomae said that the program will soon be extended to Iowa State, the University of Iowa and the University of Northern Iowa, as well.

For details about upcoming workshops, visit the Iowa State University Extension and Outreach webpage and search by county or under the Family Finances section of the webpage.

For details about federal health insurance or to register for federal insurance, visit www.healthcare.gov.



An American Memoir
Japanese American Internment

Neil Nakadate

Wednesday ~ 7 pm
February 19, 2014
Sun Room, Memorial Union

Neil Nakadate is the author of *Looking After Minidoka: An American Memoir*. During World War II, 110,000 Japanese Americans were removed from their homes and incarcerated by the U.S. government. In *Looking After Minidoka*, the "internment camp" years become a prism for understanding three generations of Japanese American life, from immigration to the end of the twentieth century. Nakadate is also the author of *Understanding Jane Smiley* and coauthor of *A Rhetoric of Doing: Essays on Written Discourse in Honor of James L. Kinneavy* and *Writing in the Liberal Arts Tradition: A Rhetoric With Readings*. He has a doctorate in English and American Literature from Indiana University and is Iowa State University Professor Emeritus of English.

Book signing to follow
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PERIODICALS POSTAGE



Photo illustration: Jonathan Krueger/Iowa State Daily
ClusterFlunk is a website where students in the same class can meet and collaborate on assignments. Created by two University of Iowa students, the site is now expanding.

ClusterFlunk site grows to Iowa State

By Justin.Lo, Michelle.Goodman
@iowastatedaily.com

ClusterFlunk, a new website for university students, may have possible academic integrity issues.

The website was created by two University of Iowa students, Adam Nelson and Joe Dallago.

“ClusterFlunk is a website that allows you to connect with other students that are specifically in your classes,” Nelson said. “It’s like a Facebook group for your class at the university. You can instant message, upload and download files.”

ClusterFlunk was created off the idea that classmates were not connecting with other students in their classes, and study resources between students were not available.

“We were baffled at the idea that there can be 400 students in a lecture and you don’t know a single one,” Nelson said. “Who knows if one of those people are your future wife or your future business partner?”

Although ClusterFlunk is intended to be used as an academic resource, ISU students are urged to be mindful about what they share on the website, as well as anywhere online, about their classes.

ISU officials have been informed about many note-sharing websites in the past and would like students to keep the university’s academic dishonesty policy in mind when on these websites.

“First and foremost, a student should consult his or her syllabus and consult with the faculty member or instructor for a given course,” said Michelle Boettcher, assistant dean of students and director of judicial affairs. “This is the best way to proactively avoid any allegation of misconduct.”

ClusterFlunk had its beginning two years ago at the University of Iowa. The website had a trial period during 2013 to determine if the website would be successful.

After receiving feedback from 10,000 students at the University of Iowa, Nelson said they expect to have more than 100,000 users by the end of the semester and spikes during midterms and finals as they spread the website to universities all over the nation.

“It’s a pretty cool feeling when you have students tweeting at you that you just saved their life,” Nelson said. “You can see that students are meeting with their classmates.”

ClusterFlunk differs from other educational sharing websites because everything is completely free to users.

Nelson believes that students shouldn’t have to pay to meet other students in the class or share study materials. The website is free to join and it al-

ways will be, Nelson said.

One feature of ClusterFlunk is the ability to post either anonymously or not. This allows students to ask questions in class the ability to ask them online.

ClusterFlunk was created to be as user friendly as possible, too.

All of the courses are already on the website. All students have to do is join them.

“We really pride ourselves on user experience,” Nelson said. “We make it as stupid-easy as possible to connect with students in your class.”

Some faculty members are looking at how students will actually use the website.

“What the creators of ClusterFlunk have done is fill a gap left by Facebook,” said Michael Bugeja, director of the Greenlee School of Journalism and Communication.

Bugeja also said Facebook used to only include university students, and students used to use Facebook to talk about projects or plan to meet somewhere.

“When Facebook decided to open up registration to anyone and go national, it was a very good move financially for them, but what Facebook lost was that locality concerning the ability to contact people about everything from homework to meeting at a certain place,” Bugeja said.

Boettcher also offered some considerations and reminders to students about how to avoid committing academic dishonesty.

“Students cannot and should not post notes, slides or other materials created or shared by the faculty member or instructor,” Boettcher said. “This includes material the instructor makes available for the entire class. Students should not share material that has not been generated on their own.”

Aside from possible academic integrity issues, the current usage of ClusterFlunk has some faculty members concerned that the website will be not completely be used for its intended purpose.

“I do see the customary way that students use social media websites like Facebook being a much larger concern because they have been pre-programmed by Facebook to respond in certain manners, no matter what digital application they are using,” Bugeja said. “There are messages on ClusterFlunk about subleasing apartments, there are only a couple posts about homework and there are many posts about the wild party at the University of Iowa [for registering at least 5,000 ClusterFlunk users from that university].”

Iowa State has more than 500 members on ClusterFlunk as of Tuesday.

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F. February 28 - 12:00 PM Mindful Eating/Brown Bag Lunch Activity ISU Campus Human Nutrition and Sciences Building Room 2021

BODY IMAGE AND EATING DISORDER AWARENESS WEEK 2014

Sustainapalooza highlights sustainability focus on campus

**By Justin.Lo
@iowastatedaily.com**

An annual celebration of sustainability at Iowa State University will take place Monday and Tuesday at the Memorial Union. The events are being put on by The Green Umbrella, Live Green! and the Council on Sustainability.

The first day of events kicks off with a public lecture by Alan Weisman, author of the book, "A World Without Us," at 8 p.m. Monday at the Great Hall. Weisman will talk about population growth and how it affects sustainability on Earth.

"Alan Weisman is a really well-known author and has some really important things to say and will put things into perspective," said Green Umbrella co-president Ali Ford, junior in environmental science.

At 1 p.m. Tuesday, the Symposium on Sustainability will begin with opening re-

marks by Merry Rankin, Iowa State's director of sustainability, and Jonathan Wickert, Iowa State's senior vice president and provost.

The symposium will offer lectures and panel discussions about the past, present and future of sustainability at Iowa State. Near the conclusion of this event, the 2014 Live Green! Awards for Excellence in Sustainability will be given to individuals making an impact on Iowa State's sustainability efforts.

Sustainapalooza will begin after the symposium at 5 p.m. At this event, the public is invited to take part in "green it yourself" sessions on how they can be more sustainable in their everyday lives. These sessions will include topics on urban gardening, waste reduction, green transportation and upcycling.

"Upcycling is taking something that is no longer being used for its original intended

purpose and using it for something else," Rankin said. "At the event, they are going to upcycle old, empty containers for people to then take to the urban gardening center at Sustainapalooza. They are also going to take old T-shirts and make them into reusable bags."

This offers a unique hands-on experience for those who attend the event.

"This is one of the biggest ways for students to learn about sustainability," Ford said. "Everyone will learn something, and there will be something for everyone."

Along with the sessions, the public is free to view posters containing more information about sustainability at Iowa State and the Ames community, walk on the "green carpet," write on the pledge wall and pledge to be more sustainable in everyday activities.

During Sustainapalooza, Frank Cownie, mayor of Des

Moines, will present on improving preparedness for extreme weather conditions at the local level at 6:30 p.m. in the Sun Room of the Memorial Union.

Cownie was recently appointed to the State, Local and Tribal Leaders Task Force on Climate Preparedness and Resilience and participated as a local government delegate at the International Climate Meeting in Copenhagen, Denmark.

"Sustainapalooza is a great way to showcase the focus that students at Iowa State and members of the community put on sustainability," said Caleb Swank, Green Umbrella co-president.

Anyone planning to attend the events on Tuesday is encouraged to view the schedule and register at www.livegreen.iastate.edu. It is also possible to RSVP on the Sustainapalooza event page on Facebook.



Courtesy of the Office of Sustainability
An annual celebration of sustainability at Iowa State will take place Monday and Tuesday at the Memorial Union. Included will be discussions about the past, present and future of sustainability at Iowa State.

>>WI-FI p1

ITS for more than a year to come up with a solution that is feasible and cost-effective.

"Typically, there's a life-cycle of every system, so we're always planning and working on the next best system, but it all depends on funding," said Jennifer Lohrbach, senior systems analyst in ITS networks and communications.

The existing 769 access points will be replaced for no cost because of monthly fees already paid.

The project will cost \$1.5 million to install the additional access points,



Kelby Wingert/Iowa State Daily
Mike Broders, an IT Services engineer working on the wireless project walks through Friley Hall recording project data.

a cost that does not affect an increase in student residential fees.

Now that an agreement has been made, the upgrade is in progress.

Currently, ITS is mapping out each building by surveying the amount of connectivity in each residence hall and almost every room.

This will help them better understand the areas of low connectivity, as well as how to customize the system for the needs of each building.

The survey process will take about a month to complete. But, as soon as the results are returned, hired contractors will begin replacing and installing the new system.

The Department of Residence hopes that by Fall 2014, the new system

will be up and running, allowing returning residents to see a significant increase in the wireless connection provided.

"The idea is that it might not be until August that we're all done, but when they come back, students will say 'wow, the Internet service is incredible,' and that would be ideal," Englin said.

After which, a second mapping survey will begin to ensure the system is working effectively.

"We've tried solutions in the past that haven't satisfied students to the level we desire, and that's what we want — to satisfy stu-

dents — and [with the current plan], we're heading there now," Englin said.

But because not all connectivity problems are due to the outdated Wi-Fi system, ITS and the DOR offer tips to work with the current system.

"There are a number of devices that aren't even registered with the network which ensures the proper connection, as well as just double checking their connection to an Iowa State network," Lohrbach said.

Students are encouraged to call the Solution Center whenever they experience an Internet outage at 515-294-4000.

>>SHOOTING p1

where he continued to try to elude police until McPherson fired seven shots in an attempt to stop Comstock. Comstock died of a gunshot to the head and chest, according to an autopsy by the state medical examiner.

During an Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation review of the shooting, McPherson went on administrative leave. Story County Attorney Stephen Holmes declared McPherson acted "reasonably under very difficult circumstances" a few days after the incident.

Since that time, Ames Police undertook an internal review of policies, which is standard procedure after any use of force. Huff said Ames Police held follow-

up interviews to collect names of people who saw the incident, reviewed the dash camera video and reviewed Iowa Code policies during the two months between the incident and when McPherson returned to duty.

"As far as changes for us, we didn't find any policy violations. That's why he's back to work," Huff said about McPherson.

In spite of threats to police and McPherson, and scrutiny by both Comstock's family and various members of the public, Huff said the incident was traumatic for McPherson as well.

"That's the one decision that no officer wants to have to make," Huff said. "They went through a lot afterwards, too. Psychologically, it's a tough thing to have to do."

As for whether McPherson could have handled the incident differently, Huff said McPherson's actions were the only possible set of actions. Huff said McPherson could not have taken such actions as shooting out the tires of the truck or firing elsewhere in order to subdue Comstock.

"Warning shots are illegal by Iowa Code. We have to account for the round. If I'm firing a round in the air or into the ground, you don't know exactly where that round's going to go," Huff said. "We're making split-second decisions that people with a lot of time on their hands can think about over and over again. We don't have that opportunity."

Huff said Stop Stick, a tire deflation device, would not have worked to stop Comstock either because they do not de-

ploy on grass.

"We heard people say, 'well, they could have done this. They could have done that.' We can't do either one of those," Huff said.

McPherson was medically cleared to return to duty after professional counseling.

Part of that review process is making sure they're back to the point where it's not going to affect their judgment. They're going to be able to make the right call under a stressful situation," Huff said.

Comstock's family has up to two years to file a lawsuit regarding the shooting. Huff said McPherson was not available for comment because Ames Police attorneys advise them not to discuss the case.

"We're in the position where we don't get to talk but anybody else can," Huff said.

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Editorial

American people struggle with lack of immigration reform efforts

Immigration reform is a topic that has been discussed for decades. Although there has been plenty of talk about this reform, there has been little to no action. We expect the government to be the leaders of our country, but when they refuse to take action it feels as though, rather than leading, they are falling farther and farther behind.

A recent Gallup poll, conducted between Feb. 6-9, found that 44 percent of Americans rank dealing with the large number of immigrants already in the U.S. as “extremely important,” and 43 percent rank border security in the same way. This is a stark contrast to a few years ago, when many more Americans worried about border security.

Given the new public perceptions regarding immigration reform, our government needs to get to work, and many politicians agree. President Obama issued a call to action for the American people, recently commenting that, “The main thing people can do right now is put pressure on Republicans who have refused so far to act.”

The desire to see meaningful immigration reform is not only restricted to democrats, though. Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., has been known as a staunch proponent of getting a deal done and helped author the Senate’s comprehensive im-migration legislation last summer. “I would again urge my House colleagues to consider whatever way they want to pursue to try to address this issue because it’s going to have to be addressed,” said McCain during an interview with “State of the Union” host Candy Crowley.

Those House colleagues, led by Speaker of the House John Boehner, R-Ohio, do not seem eager to listen to their 2008 presidential candidate, however. Boehner has made waves with the more conser-vative fringes of his party by calling out certain organizations associated with the Tea Party as hav-ing lost credibility and, more recently, by allowing a “clean” debt ceiling bill to pass the House, meaning the republicans did not demand concessions from the democrats.

Boehner maintained some of his conservative credibility though, by pushing back on the issue of immigration. After issuing a list of principles that the GOP would heed regarding any reforms, Boehner hit the brakes, saying that he and other Republicans couldn’t trust Obama to enforce any potential law as written.

This is an extremely weak argument, but one that allows Boehner and his fellow republicans to shift the focus of immigration questions to the widely unpopular Obama and his repeated execu-tive actions delaying or altering the controversial Affordable Care Act.

Boehner’s statements are also a convenient way for republicans to both appease voters who want the GOP to address immigration and not immediately upset those that would not favor any realistic reforms.

In addition to these benefits, by drawing atten-tion to Obama and how he has been enforcing laws, the republicans are fighting back against Obama’s so-called “year of action,” in which he promised to take action when Congress wouldn’t. Along with the president’s statement Friday in a Univision Radio interview that he “believe[s] it will get done before my presidency is over,” a national stage is set for an immigration showdown.

In response to the apparent concern that Obama would not be willing or able to enforce an agreement, Sen. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y., sug-gested that a deal be made now that would not go into effect until 2017, when a new president will be sitting in the Oval Office. Opponents of such a sce-nario still remain, such as Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Fla., who called Schumer’s plan “a political trap.”

Yes, how dare the democrats suggest such a trap. How dare they suggest that both parties work toward addressing one of the biggest issues in the current political landscape. Even in states that are not usually thought of as being plagued by im-migration problems, there are movements to take action.

A number of Iowa businesses called on the U.S. House of Representatives to engage in re-form at press conference held yesterday in Iowa. Using figures from a forecasting report by Regional Economic Models, Inc., the businesses claimed im-migration reform could add \$280 million to Iowa’s economy in 2014 and create thousands of jobs.

The American Farm Bureau Federation, which acts as “the voice of agricultural producers at all levels,” released a report Monday that claims an enforcement-only immigration solution would harm the nation’s agricultural workers. Along with this, the Farm Bureau’s president Bob Stallman said, “Status quo is not a viable option for anyone involved in this issue.”

Whatever you think needs to be done about immigration, the political motto of ‘we’ll get to it later’ is not helping, and needs to be fixed.

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Phone numbers and addresses will not be published.

Online feedback may be used if first name and last name, major and year in school are included in the post. Feedback posted online is eligible for print in the Iowa State Daily.



Illustration: Michael Caley/Iowa State Daily
While most video games layer storylines and turn out striking visuals, Flappy Bird’s simplistic design and plot attracted many users. However, due to the hateful tweets and the addictive effect, game creator Dong Nguyen decided to take it down.

Escape easily with Flappy Bird

By Zachary.Neuendorf
@iowastatedaily.com

“I am sorry ‘Flappy Bird’ users, 22 hours from now, I will take ‘Flappy Bird’ down.. I can’t stand it anymore” - Dong Nguyen

That was the tweet heard around the world — or at least to app-gamers of the world. If you are not familiar with the name, chances are you’re familiar with his creation. The highly addictive, equally frustrating app Flappy Bird lures the player into a game of repetition, thumb tapping and an endless pursuit of a new high score.

A man of his word, Nguyen had the app removed from all app mar-kets, barricading further purchases while letting anyone who previously purchased the app to keep their gamer relic and grapple their obses-sion some more. Nguyen was collect-ing \$50,000 a day from in-app adver-tising, which leaves many wondering why he would abandon his money maker at the height of its success. For the record, he is still getting paid. However, it is the age-old tale of spotlight sickness. Although he had legions of fans, even more outspoken were the malicious victims, many of whom threw hateful tweets, ranging from annoying to death threats, at Nguyen.

On top of that, critics were not shy about slamming Flappy Bird’s minimalist style and barefaced Mario rip-offs. Nguyen never anticipated

this level of success, so he was un-prepared for the backlash. He refuses to have a PR team because it would ruin his indie credibility — that is how indifferent he is to his success. All in all, he has grown to dislike Flappy Bird and its addictive effect on people, so he decided to delete it.

So, is Flappy Bird bad for us?

It is a typical waste of time that’s for sure. It is the ultimate weapon against productivity, having no endpoint, no riddles, no mindful obstacles, no physical benefit beside a gruesome thumb workout. When one is playing Flappy Bird, avoiding green pipes is literally the objec-tive and this requires relatively zero brainpower.

Flappy Bird is innovative in how it is the opposite of innovative; while most video games are layering storyline on storyline and turning out striking visuals, Flappy Bird soars in the other direction using the most basic plot and recycled, pixelated images of ‘90s games. The thought-lessness and homely graphics is likely what enticed and transfixed fans. Plus, it is a killer wave for peer pressure to ride on.

Marrysa Harkness, freshman in interdisciplinary studies, said about her journey with Flappy Bird: “I origi-nally wanted to see what all the hype was about. Then I started using it as a filler in my days because I’m too lazy to find something interesting to fill the gaps of the day. It’s a great distraction from class.”

Since its quiet release last May,

Flappy Bird has steadily picked up pace by way of social media chat-ter. Soon, a gargantuan, aggravated community took form and used the internet as a way to vent about the life-destroying characteristics of the game. And there have been those who claim Flappy Bird perfectly embodies our descent into madness, like Nick Statt from CNET. That is an awfully hefty accusation to a puny game.

I think I ought to defend Flappy Bird to an extent. Unarguably, it is ingenious; it is the purest form of escapism I have ever seen. Yes, even more so than Candy Crush or Angry Birds, which both require a certain level of strategy. It is the perfect game: never-ending and simple enough for a 3-year-old, but appeals to all ages. And who is to say there is something wrong with a couple hours of escapism? All generations assert that they live in tough times, and the only difference with us is that we luckily have the means to escape said tough times with Flappy Bird.

We can simply tap our way out of our daily problems, until we hit a green pipe, but then we can just start again. Of course this is not ideal liv-ing, but it just might be 21st century living. Some will excel intellectually, socially, et cetera, while others are busy with their escapism and birds on apps. If you are satisfied with es-caping to a monotonous world for a couple hours and missing out on the frenzied natural world, so be it.

Letter to the editor

Cast a well-informed election ballot

Spencer Hughes,
president of the
Government of the
Student Body

Editor’s note:
President Spencer Hughes chose not to mention running mates Barry Snell and Nick Vos because “their intentions of running are not to get votes.”

The Government of the Student Body’s annual election is fast approaching. On March 4-5, students will log on to vote.iastate.edu and make their selection for the next student body president and vice president.

While I’m not involved

in this year’s campaign, I am reaching out across campus, asking students to take the time to get informed and cast a ballot. Who you choose could have a major impact on next year — and beyond — for Iowa State.

Three pairs of candi-dates, or slates, are asking for your vote this year: Fitten-Walsh, Kletscher-Hoefer and Martinez-Lafrenz. Each slate is now spending time discussing their visions for our cam-pus. While these visions are the foundation of change, I encourage you to search for more.

The Fitten-Walsh slate wants to implement an e-textbook program

for introductory courses, but how will they pay for this — with a new student fee? Kletscher and Hoefer are interested in making student activity fee dollars available for all student organizations, but how will this impact the organiza-tions currently receiving fees when resources are limited? The Martinez-Lafrenz campaign has ex-pressed a desire to improve diversity within GSB, but what specific steps will they take to achieve this goal?

Each candidate will be quick to share the positive outcomes that they hope to attain in office, rang-ing from new need-based scholarships to more park-

ing availability on campus and everything in between. But don’t settle only for hearing the end goal. Ask to see the path that the candidates will take from start to finish. Take it from me — one year as president can feel like one minute. If ideas aren’t well developed from day one, they’ll always just be ideas.

Students, do your part. Take the time to learn about the candidates and ask the hard questions. If you are well informed and weigh your options, no matter which slate you vote for — be it Fitten-Walsh, Kletscher-Hoefer or Martinez-Lafrenz — you will have made the right decision.

"She's going to have some top-notch competition, so she's going to have to be on her A-game. If she can be in the top-three, that'd be fantastic."



This salad cuts calories by replacing the mayonnaise with pureed greek yogurt and silken tofu, which boosts protein and cuts back on fat. The abundance of vegetables, like kale and cucumber, provide important vitamins while cranberries provide essential amino acids.

By Lauren Grant
AmesEats Flavors

This pasta salad is full of flavor without any of the extra, unwanted calories. The dressing uses silken tofu in place of mayo which boosts the protein content while cutting the fat.

Dressing:

- 1/4 cup soft silken tofu
- 1/4 cup plain greek yogurt
- 1 garlic clove, minced
- 1 Tbsp. soybean oil
- 1 1/2 Tbsp. fresh tarragon, chopped
- 3 tablespoons apple cider vinegar
- 1 tablespoons lemon juice

Salad:

- 1 1/2 cups dry conch pasta shells
- 1 mango, diced
- 1 cup kale, chopped
- 1 cup English cucumber, cubed
- 1/2 cup raisins
- Salt and pepper, to taste

For dressing:
Puree silken tofu, greek yogurt, garlic, oil and 1 tablespoon tarragon in a food processor until smooth.
Transfer mixture to small bowl and whisk in vinegar, lemon juice and remaining tarragon.

For pasta salad:
Cook pasta as directed and drain.
In a large bowl combine all ingredients with dressing and mix to evenly coat. Refrigerate overnight or at least 3 hours before serving.
Note: Refrigeration over night enhances flavor.
Yield: 6 cups

Full guide to soy products available for your meals

By Lauren Grant
AmesEats Flavors

We have a full guide for you on what products are available and how you can incorporate them into your diet.

Soft Silken Tofu

This product comes packaged in a small rectangular cardboard box. (This is not the same product as soft water-packed tofu). It is perfect for blending into smoothies, and for use in dips and desserts be-

cause of its light, fluffy and cream-like qualities. When combined with Greek yogurt, it can take the place of cream cheese or mayonnaise in recipes.

Extra Firm Tofu

This type of tofu is water packed and ideal for entrees. In order to achieve the firmest and most desirable texture, it is vital to press the tofu. This process removes excess water and prepares the tofu to absorb flavors.
To do this: Begin by

draining the water from the package followed by slicing the tofu into desired pieces. Arrange tofu pieces on a paper towel-lined plate or pan. Place a layer of paper towels on top of the tofu pieces, then place a flat, heavy object on top. (For example, we used glass baking dishes and cast-iron skillet). Press for at least a half hour, replacing paper towels after 15 minutes or as needed. The tofu is now ready to be marinated, rubbed or seasoned. This process results in an overall better piece of tofu.

Soy milk

Soy milk has a very nutty flavor with a mild, natural sweetness. Soy milk has fewer calories, grams of sugar and cholesterol while containing more calcium and Vitamin D in comparison to skim dairy milk. Soy milk can be used in place of dairy milk.

Edamame

Edamame are immature soybeans. They can be found frozen in the pod or

shelled. It is important to read the package for information regarding cooking method and time. Some can be found ready to eat while others require boiling or steaming before consuming.

Black Soybeans

Black soybeans are very similar to regular black beans and can be found in cans. Black soybeans have a slightly firmer texture than black beans but can be used in-place of or alongside many kinds of

beans.

TVP (Textured Vegetable Protein)

TVP can also be referred to as TSP (Textured Soy Protein). TVP can be found next to other grain products that are located in the health or organic sections of a supermarket.
A great way to use this product is by hydrating the dried flakes with boiling water. The hydrated protein can be seasoned and used in-place of ground meats.

Restaurant of the Month: Dublin Bay Irish Pub and Grill

By Lexie.Kuecket
AmesEats Flavors

There is an old Irish philosophy that states “there are no strangers, but rather friends not yet met.” Dublin Bay Irish Pub and Grill has been embracing this philosophy since its opening in 2001.
The quaint little restaurant located just off Duff on S. 16th Street takes pride in their made-from-scratch Irish food. Their extensive menu includes everything from light lunches such as soups, clubs and reu-

bens, to exquisite dinner items like steaks, pasta, pork loin and walleye.
There are many traditional Irish fare dishes to choose from such as shepherd’s pie, fish and chips, lamb stew and their delicious potato pancakes, also known as boxtys.
It won’t be hard to find the perfect drink to go with your meal. With a list of more than 45 ciders and micro-brew or import beers, there is something for everyone. To top it all off, with one of their unique desserts such as bread pudding or

Bailey’s Pie.
According to general manager, Justin Kabrick, they also offer “the best patio in Ames.” Their patio is a great place for bigger groups to gather in the warmer months.
If you are looking for a little relaxation, happy hour is from 3-6 p.m. Monday through Friday. They also offer great daily specials like Tuesday Burgers & Brews and \$3 Bloody Mary’s on Sundays.
If you need some entertainment on St. Patrick’s Day [March 17], look no further

than Dublin Bay. They will begin serving breakfast at 6 a.m. and will have a variety of entertainment throughout the day, including a heated beer garden, Irish dancers, bagpipes and live music.
“It’s the best Saint Patrick’s Day party in Iowa,” says Kabrick.
It is said that to enter a Pub is “to drop by a friend’s home ... the greeting is warm and genuine, the service is gracious and the experience is relaxing and fun.” Expect no less than this old saying at Dublin Bay Irish Pub and Grill.

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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69					70				71			

- Across**
- 1 Appliance connector, briefly
- 7 Cairo cobra
- 10 Selling site with a Half.com division
- 14 Point in the right direction
- 15 Bather's facility
- 16 No longer green, perhaps
- 17 Confederate slogan symbolizing financial independence
- 19 Asia Minor honorific
- 20 Swipe
- 21 Thin soup
- 23 Plywood wood
- 24 Romaine lettuce dishes
- 27 Literary alter ego
- 30 Slowing, to the orch.
- 31 Great Lakes' ____ Canals
- 32 Speak harshly
- 36 Co-founding SkyTeam airline
- 39 "Happy Feet" critters
- 43 Small thicket
- 44 Sans serif, e.g.
- 45 Razor-billed diver
- 46 "Isn't ____ shame?"
- 47 Sudden jets
- 50 Study guides for
- literature students
- 56 Cousin of edu
- 57 Municipal ribbon cutter, often
- 58 Rapper ____ Shakur
- 62 Femme fatale
- 64 Sandwich choice
- 66 List catchall
- 67 Sci-fi staples
- 68 Rest of the afternoon
- 69 Modernize
- 70 Messy digs
- 71 How coal may be priced
- Down**
- 1 Launchpad thumbs-ups
- 2 Review, briefly
- 3 Long (for)
- 4 Inheritance
- 5 Naked
- 6 Potent '60s-'70s Pontiac
- 7 Stars in Kansas' motto
- 8 Animal trail
- 9 Khakis, e.g.
- 10 Timeline chapter
- 11 Deceitful sort, on the playground
- 12 Sap sucker
- 13 Century units
- 18 "Very funny" TV station
- 22 Good start?
- 25 Architect Saarinen
- 26 In ____ of: replacing
- 27 Connection rate meas.
- 28 Cowboys quarter-back Tony
- 29 Fit to be tied
- 33 Getty collection
- 34 Le Carré's Smiley, for one
- 35 Get-up-and-go
- 37 Fastener with flanges
- 38 Seeks, with "for"
- 40 Picasso's "this"
- 41 Provide with new weaponry
- 42 ____ egg
- 48 "The Dick Van Dyke Show" surname
- 49 Figure of high interest?
- 50 Man with a van, perhaps
- 51 Emulate Cicero
- 52 "Ace of ____": 2000s Food Network bakery show
- 53 Marriott rival
- 54 Like leaf blowers
- 55 RN workplaces
- 59 Military assignment
- 60 Certain chorister
- 61 Family group
- 63 West Bank gp.
- 65 Debatable "gift"

Horoscope *by Linda Black*

Today's Birthday (2/19/14)

Disciplined efforts bring success wherever applied this year. Creativity bubbles with inspired magic, especially until August. Put your heart into it, and career leaps ahead. Balance this work with downtime, relaxation and healthy practices. Find joy in simple pleasures. Summer and autumn get especially romantic. Build partnership and family teamwork through listening and communication.

To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

Aries (March 21-April 19)

Today is a 9 – Be respectful and don't hold a grudge or you'll be hurting yourself. It's okay not to make changes yet, but prepare for speed. Caring for others is your motivation. Don't gamble or waste your money.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)

Today is a 9 – Something that worked before doesn't work now. Take it slow. Get set to change romantic direction. Avoid provoking jealousies. Simplify matters. Fall back and reassess your position. Wait to see what develops. Prioritize health.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

Today is a 9 – It's not a good idea to spend now. Figure out your next move. Begin a new money-making venture. Track sales closely. Support a loved one emotionally, rather than financially.

Cancer (Jun 21-Jul 22)

Today is an 8 – Set long-range goals. Work in private. A female gives the green light on a project. Don't get cocky or make expensive promises. Map the pitfalls. Do the extra credit problems. The past is the past.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)

Today is a 9 – A roadblock slows the action. A female helps you find harmony about it. Think it over. A conflict of interests needs to get worked out. Rest up for it. Advance quickly after that. Consider all options.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Today is a 9 – The work pace picks up; postpone travel. It's difficult to reach an agreement and could get intense. Don't get stopped by past failures. List obvious problem areas. Discuss priorities and responsibilities. Handle the onrush.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

Today is a 9 – Listen to your partner's ideas carefully. Hold back your criticism and avoid a conflict. Resist an impulse. Keep costs down. Postpone a financial discussion. Use your own good judgment on how to proceed.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Today is an 8 – Curtail your enthusiasm and avoid a hidden danger. It's not a good time to travel or start new projects. Make sure you know what's required before committing. Consult a respected elder.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Today is a 9 – Give kind words, not expensive treats. Begin a new work project. An important document arrives. New evidence threatens complacency. Take action for home or family. Don't give in to a friend's complaints. It works out.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Today is a 9 – Keep track of spending, as it could provoke controversy or a domestic disagreement. Organize your infrastructure. Prepare the marketing materials. Handle overdue tasks, and clean house. Manage your work well and an authority approves.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Today is a 9 – Make plans and establish the rules. An agreement could be elusive, with a communications breakdown. A great idea on paper doesn't work in practice. Don't gossip about work. Let your partner do the talking. Listen for the gold.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)

Today is a 9 – Talk over a possible purchase with someone you love. Don't put your money down yet. You can get farther faster now. Dish out the assignments, and get into the game. Small, disciplined steps can have big impact.

Sudoku *by the Mephram Group*

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6			7		5			4
		3			9	2		
		8					7	
	2	9				3	1	
	1				6	5		
		5	4			1		
2			8		1			5
		1			2			

LEVEL: 1 2 3 4

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

Free Pool Sundays

Daily Drink Specials

125 Main St. 232-1528

Dale Johnson's Birthday Show!

Thursday Feb. 20

9 pm

FREE

Iowa School of Burlesque Presents: Valentine's Day Show!

Friday Feb. 21

9 pm

\$5

Doctor Murdock/Mighty Shady/Obsidian's Dream

Saturday Feb. 22

9 pm

DG's Tap House

56 Beers on Tap

Pool, Darts, Pinball and Live Music

127 Main St. 233-5084